A Long, Faithful Service

News of the retirement of Fred F. Wehmeyer from the U.S. Forest Service reached this office too late for comment on this page. Since he has a few more days in the office such comment will be in good time this week and we endeavor to express our appreciation of his long and faithful service, however feeble that endeavor may be. With the aid of a release from the Umatilla National Forest office at Pendleton it will be an easier task than it otherwise would, for the article gives more of the "case history" than one might pry from

"Last Thursday, Feb. 15, Fred completed 35 years of government service, six of which were with the U. S. Navy. His first assignment in the forest service was in 1912 on the Chelan National forest in Washington. In 1926 he was transferred to the Umatilla as district ranger at Dayton, Washington. It was 16 years ago this spring that he and his family moved to Heppner.

'Fred's work in the forest service spans a period of remarkable development. He has seen the pack horse give way to the buckboard and finally to the automobile as primary transportation. In his earlier years short logs were skidded and hauled short distances by horses; longer distances by rail. Now logs 32 feet or more in length are skidded by tractors and hauled unbelievable distances on semitrailers. Fires are fought with power equipment and fire fighters are dropped in parachutes from the skies. Other methods have advanced with equal rapidity. The size, conformation and color of cattle have been tremendously improved with breeding as have the size, conformation and percentage of lambs and the quality and weight of wool clips. Big game animals such as deer and elk have increased in numbers until in many places they find it difficult to reach food enough to enable smaller ones to survive severe winters.'

Fred's retirement will make it possible for him and Mrs. Wehmeyer to devote more time to the numerous activities they have looked forward to during their many busy years in the forest service. Just what they will undertake first has not yet been announced but their many friends here are hoping they continue to make Heppner their home.

This newspaper has enjoyed the friendship and

cooperation of Fred Wehmeyer throughout the 16 years of his residence here. His office has always been a fruitful source of information and Fred himself has contributed many articles fraught with old man and retirement is coming at a period in ing the past week on settlement the wisdom of his fertile brain. He is far from an of the major problems confronting his life when he is still active. The Gazette Times this legislature, little was done wishes Mr. and Mrs. Wehmeyer the best of health to smooth the path toward agreeand happiness as they set about to adjust them- ment on these problems. As often selves to their new routine. In this we firmly be- happens, the first clash between Dr. W. H. Rockwell lieve all who know them will join us.

Roadside Not Garbage Dump

It takes all kinds of people to make a world and there is one kind that prompts a few lines of protest against a shiftless practice which gives the that are to come before this sescommunity a black eye and causes no small amount of worry to municipal, county and state officials. We refer to the habitual dumper of rubbish, and even garbage, along public roads and highways. It is being done in almost any commu-building programs, money for larger Res. Ph. 1162 nity where rubbish and garbage disposal facilities pensions, money for lots of things are not available, yet almost every community never heard of before all have has a dump ground somewhere back from the pub- strong proponents. lie view yet not too remote from a highway or well traveled road.

Heppner has a dump ground just a short drive by war time income. At first he refrom town, quite neatly hidden from view except solves to be careful and save and to those traveling the road near where it is located. Frepare for a rainy day. After a few Despite this fact one occasionally runs across a pile of tin cans and rubbish slyly unloaded by some nocturnal cleaner-upper who probably pats himself on the back for having disposed of the material

Complaints have been registered with the county court from different points in the county and the officials are working to put a stop to the nefarious practice. If the points in question have no were cut down and provision was designated spots for refuse disposal they should made to return the unneeded part make an effort to secure them at once. Neighbors of the income to the citizens who dislike assuming the role of informers and to avoid having to do so should urge use of the regular It is as if the state felt that its dump grounds. If their urging goes unheeded they income from excise and income taxare then fully justified in going to the authorities with what information they may have. To quote more and there is determination Judge Bert Johnson, "We would like to get hold of just one of those guys. We will make the best example of him we know how.'

Giles French Gives News and Views Of the Legislature

Although progress was made duropposing sides widened the breach between them instead of closing it by agreement or compromise. After some tests of strength compromise will be easier.

Probably the bills of importance sion are all in. The money problem is uppermost, the ways and means boys have enough requests for money to use up all the income taxes and more too. Salary raises,

The state is like a shipyard worker who finds his income boosted years of such prosperity he comes to think that his income will always be large because he is now capable of earning a larger wage and he and his family start spending on a scale beyond their previous habits.

The state has done, and is doing, the same thing. Last session there was some caution, the demands paid it. This time it is different. es would always be \$20,000,000 or to live up to it.

The sad fact remains that the state's income will drop at the same time as will that of the shipyard worker will be a matter of hindsight instead of foresight it now appears, unless the cooler heads can prevail on the demanders to take

care lest the state be over extended. The newspapers are already talking about when the session will end. The reporters are tired of hurrying from one committee room to another, listening to ranters and ravers and some prepared statements. They want to go home. The legislator would want to go home too, if they could finish the job, but nearly all still have something personal importance to them still in the mill

A brief listing, in round figures of the rquests may be illuminating. Phone 723 It is estimated by the tax commission that the income taxes will bring in around \$16,000,000 after the 30 percent deduction is taken. From this we will need the state expenses that used to be over \$9,- Class A 000,000, the \$5,000,000 cushion is al- Class B ready there and need not be considered although there is sentiment to increase it. The elementary school tax must be paid next (rather, before the cushion is taken. That is \$3,000,000.

From the remaining, if there is anything remaining, the elementary schools want \$5,000,000, higher edu- Phone 1332 cation wants \$1,500,000, and other groups including the counties that would like to have \$3,000,000 with which to pay their county school fund, want some too. You see, that the plan to give back any income tax is having difficulty.

This difficulty is worse when the salary increases and other costs are considered for th eformer \$9,000,000 of state costs will probably be nearer \$12,000,000.

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